

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2 to 5, 20 to 23, 26 and 27 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein and without conceding the correctness of their rejection. Please amend Claims 1, 6 to 11 and 17 to 19 and add new Claim 28 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring fluorescence emitted from samples on a measuring surface of a substrate by illuminating said samples with excitation light, characterized in that

an excitation light illumination portion and a light detecting portion are placed in such a manner as to make it possible to prevent said excitation light from approaching said light detecting portion where measurements are made of said fluorescence, and

the fluorescence emitted from the samples is measured relatively moving said samples or the measuring surface of said substrate from said excitation light illumination portion to said light detecting portion after illuminating said samples with said excitation light,

wherein the relative movement of the samples forms a circular orbit on said measuring surface of said substrate, and

wherein a rotational movement of said excitation light illumination portion and said light detecting portion forms the circular orbit on said measuring surface.

2 to 5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples are liquid filled in the cells formed on said substrate.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples are substances attached, adsorbed onto, or trapped in said substrate.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples are DNA.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples are protein.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples are peptide nucleic acid.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples are fixed on probes arranged on said substrate.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein said probes are DNA.

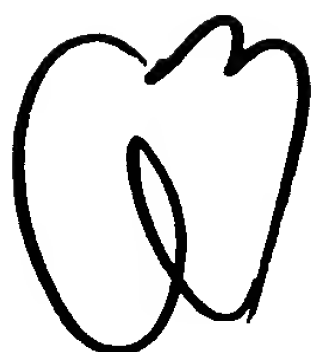
13. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein said probes are protein.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein said probes are peptide nucleic acid.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said spacing between said excitation light illumination position and said light detecting portion is variable and the period from the illumination of excitation light to the detection of fluorescence is properly adjustable.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the moving speed of said samples is variable and the period from the illumination of excitation light to the detection of fluorescence is properly adjustable by varying said moving speed.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 2, wherein said samples on said measuring surface of said substrate are arranged on more than one circles or on the arcs thereof which are concentric with the central axis of said substrate and are different in radius from each other, the samples at the same distance from the central axis having the same or similar attributes and forming a group which can be discriminated from the other groups of samples.



18. (Currently Amended) A substrate applied to the method according to claim 12, comprising samples subjected to fluorescence measurement on a measuring surface thereof, characterized in that

the samples being arranged on more than one circles or the arcs thereof which are concentric with the central axis of the substrate and are different in radius from each other, and the samples at the same distance from the central axis having the same or similar attributes and forming a group which can be discriminated from the other groups of samples.

19. (Currently Amended) A fluorometric device comprising an excitation light illumination portion where samples on a measuring surface of a substrate are illuminated with excitation light and a light detecting portion where measurements of the fluorescence emitted from the samples is performed, characterized in that

said excitation light illumination portion and said light detecting portion are placed in such a manner as to make it possible to prevent said excitation light from approaching said light detecting portion, and

a means is provided for relatively moving the samples on the measuring surface of said substrate from said excitation light illumination portion to said light detecting portion,

wherein said means for relatively moving said samples is such that it moves said substrate having said samples placed thereon relative to said excitation light illumination portion and said light detecting portion while allowing the same to form a circular orbit on said measuring surface, and

wherein said means for relatively moving said samples while allowing the same to form a circular orbit on said measuring surface is such that it rotationally moves a detector.

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~~20 to 23. (Cancelled)~~

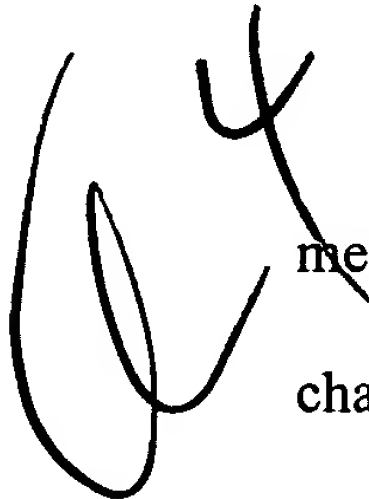
24. (Original) The fluorometric device according to claim 19, comprising means for varying the spacing between said excitation light illumination position and said light detecting portion, with which the period of time from the excitation light illumination to the light detection is properly adjustable.

25. (Original) The fluorometric device according to claim 19, comprising means for varying the moving speed of the samples, with which the period of time from the excitation light illumination to the light detection is properly adjustable.

~~26. (Cancelled)~~

~~27. (Cancelled)~~

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 28. (New) A method for measuring fluorescence emitted from samples on a measuring surface of a substrate by illuminating said samples with excitation light, characterized in that

an excitation light illumination portion and a light detecting portion are placed in such a manner as to make it possible to prevent said excitation light from approaching said light detecting portion where measurements are made of said fluorescence, and

the fluorescence emitted from the samples is measured by moving said excitation light illumination portion and said light detecting portion to the samples.

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